



December 6, 2012

VIA ELECTRONIC COMMENT FILING SYSTEM (ECFS)

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Acceleration of Broadband Deployment Expanding the Reach and
Reducing the Cost of Broadband Deployment by Improving Policies
Regarding Public Rights of Way and Wireless Facilities Siting, WC
Docket No. 11-59**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On December 4, 2012, NATOA President Joanne Hovis, President-Elect Tony Perez, Immediate Past President Ken Fellman, NATOA Board Members Catharine Rice and Jodie Miller, and the undersigned met with Commissioner Ajit Pai and Legal Advisor Nicholas Degani to discuss issues of concern to local governments.

More specifically, we voiced concerns with the misperception that local regulations delay access to public rights of way and delay deployment of broadband services. We mentioned that NATOA is actively engaged in conversations with PCIA to develop siting best practices.

We also discussed efforts by local governments to bring advanced services to their constituents. For example, the small community of Wilson, NC built its community network only after private providers refused to provide the necessary services to the jurisdiction. As a result of the actions taken by Wilson to better the lives of its residents, industry responded by pushing for state legislation restricting the rights of other North Carolina communities to build a similar network. In Longmont, CO, industry spent hundreds to thousands of dollars to block a community network rather than invest in bringing advanced services to the community. And in Seattle, WA, efforts to bring new

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services to the city failed to materialize even after dozens of private providers voiced initial interest in doing so – not because of local regulations, but because the proposed project did not fit their business plan.

In addition, we discussed comments NATOA filed in the rights of way proceeding that included a report that showed no correlation between broadband deployment and regulatory oversight in the states of Oregon and Colorado.

Pursuant to Commission rules, please include a copy of this notice in the record for the proceeding noted above.

Sincerely,
/s/Stephen Traylor
Executive Director
NATOA

cc: Commissioner Ajit Pai
Nicholas Degani